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Dear Prescriber or Pharmacist:

The New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs is launching New Jersey's **Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP)** as the cornerstone of our initiative to assist you in treating patients with issues related to addiction, and to halt the diversion and abuse of prescription drugs.

The PMP is an active database that collects prescription data on Controlled Dangerous Substances (CDS) and Human Growth Hormone (HGH) dispensed in outpatient settings in New Jersey, and by out-of-state pharmacies into New Jersey. Since September 1, 2011, it has collected detailed data on more than 1.5 million prescriptions; by the end of the year it is expected to include more than 3 million prescriptions.

I am writing to invite you, as a qualified prescriber or pharmacist, to register for secure, online access to the PMP.

Access to the PMP will be granted to qualified prescribers or pharmacists – namely, those who are licensed by the State of New Jersey and in good standing with their respective licensing boards. To obtain access, prescribers and pharmacists must first register with Optimum Technology, the vendor contracted by the State to manage the PMP.

Registration is *free*. To register for access to PMP data, please take the following steps today:

- Go to <u>www.NJConsumerAffairs.gov/pmp</u> and click on the "<u>Practitioners: New Registration</u>" link. It will take you to a secure website managed by Optimum Technology.
- 2) <u>Enter the required information</u> on the "New Registration" page. This will include your name, State license number, and other identifying information.
- 3) Once the site has verified that you are a qualified prescriber or pharmacist, the site will direct you to a link for the "Request for Access" form.
- 4) You must <u>print out</u> and <u>complete</u> the "Request for Access" form. <u>Sign</u> the printed version, have it <u>notarized</u>, and <u>mail the notarized original</u> to Optimum Technology at the address provided on the form.
- 5) After the form has been submitted and your information processed, you will

<u>receive an email from Optimum Technology</u> containing your username, password, and instructions for accessing the PMP.

Before issuing a prescription or dispensing a prescribed drug, registered prescribers and pharmacists will be able to access the PMP and request the CDS and HGH prescription history of the patient. The registered practitioners will be required to certify that they are seeking information for a specific, current patient.

Patient information in the PMP is intended to supplement an evaluation of a patient, confirm a patient's drug history, or document compliance with a therapeutic regimen. When prescribers or pharmacists identify a patient as potentially having an issue of concern regarding drug use, they are encouraged to help the patient locate assistance, and to take any other action the prescriber or pharmacist deems appropriate.

We value your partnership in this important effort. Further information about the PMP, including FAQs for prescribers and pharmacists, will be available at www.NJConsumerAffairs/gov/pmp.

Sincerely,

Thomas R. Calcagni

Director